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# Report Shows Average Worker Fails to Reach 'Necessary' Living

SAN FRANCISCO, (PAI)—During the past three years the average factory production worker in the United States not only has failed to secure an income that would enable him to maintain his family on "the commonly accepted standards of living," but has actually fallen behind.

This is the conclusion that can be drawn from the latest family budget report of the Heller Committee for Research in Social Economics of the University of California.

The Heller report for 1958 estimated that a wage earner with two children and living in a rented home needed \$6,086.88 a year, or \$117 a week, to give his family the standard of living "that public opinion currently recognizes as necessary to health and reasonably comfortable living." This was \$4.90 more than in 1957 and \$10.50 more than in 1956.

For a wage earner who owned his own home, the figure was \$6,435.11 a year, or \$123.75 a week. This was \$4.44 more than last year and \$11.25 more than in 1956.

Yet the average weekly earnings of factory production workers during 1958 was \$88.71.

Not only was income far below the necessary minimum, but during the same three years the cost of living climbed far more than did income.

In 1956 a wage earner who rented his home needed \$107.55 a week to live under the Heller budget. By 1958, he needed \$117.05, an increase of \$9.50 a week. Yet during the same period factory production wages went up only \$3.72 a week.

While wages for factory production workers have been climbing slowly, the cost of living has not. Between 1956 and 1958 the total overall cost climbed by 9.2 points for the renter and 10.2 points for the home owner because of the increase in home costs.

Yet during those same years income for the average factory production worker went up only 4.6 percent for a serious loss in buying power.

Except for taxes, medical care took the biggest bite with a boost of 15.1 points. Food over the three years was up 9.8 points, personal care up 8.5. Housing for the renter was up 7.8 points and transportation, including his car, up 7.5.

The home owner was hit somewhat harder on the housing front as his costs went up 16.3 points, largely due to higher carrying charges because of increased home prices and higher interest rates.

The impact of taxes, especially on the State level where the regressive sales tax has hit the low income family hardest,



"Ouch!"

hit the wage earner far harder than the salaried worker. Thus, the Heller budget shows that State and local taxes for the wage earner have gone up 59.2 points during the past three years and only 12.4 points for the salaried worker.

## Weekly Budget Family of 4

	Renter	Owner
Income Taxes .....	11.99	11.75
Food .....	34.15	34.15
Alcoholic Beverages .....	1.05	1.05
Housing .....	14.42	20.25
Household Operation .....	4.46	5.55
Housefurnishings .....	4.25	4.25
Clothing .....	9.25	9.25
Transportation (car) .....	10.97	10.97
Medical and Dental .....	9.49	9.49
Insurance (personal) .....	4.68	4.68
Personal care .....	2.15	2.15
Recreation .....	4.29	4.29
Tobacco .....	1.91	1.91
Miscellaneous .....	3.93	3.93
Total Cost .....	\$117.05	\$123.75

## Financial Report for 1958

RETAIL, WHOLESALE & DEPARTMENT STORE, UNION, AFL-CIO, CLC

We have examined the books of account and supporting records of the International Union for the year ended Dec. 31, 1958. Our audit included a test check of all transactions occurring during this period, verification of bank deposits and check disbursements with the appropriate bank statements, as well as by direct confirmation with the depositories, and a detailed examination of the asset and liability accounts. In our opinion these statements fairly represent the financial condition of the International Union as of December 31, 1958.

Respectfully submitted,  
NORMAN DORFMAN  
Certified Public Accountant.

### STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1958

<b>ASSETS:</b>			
Cash in Banks and on hand .....	\$151,332.13	Funds Payable .....	27,053.53
Account Receivable .....	6,260.00	Miscellaneous Exchanges .....	536.74
Investments (Bonds & Stocks) at Cost .....	85,140.37		
Loans Receivable—Locals .....	60,622.51	<b>Total Liabilities .....</b>	<b>\$ 26,511.45</b>
Loans Receivable—Individuals .....	2,989.00		
Organization Advances .....	7,856.61	<b>NET WORTH:</b>	
Security Deposits .....	7,098.58	Balance, January 1, 1958 .....	\$ 259,893.60
Furniture and Fixtures .....	5,975.59	Prior Year Income Adjustment .....	7,625.00
<b>Total Assets .....</b>	<b>\$ 327,274.79</b>		
		267,518.60	
<b>LIABILITIES:</b>		<b>Net Gain for Year .....</b>	<b>33,244.74</b>
Payroll Taxes Withheld .....	\$ 4,921.18		
		<b>Total Liabilities and Net Worth .....</b>	<b>\$ 327,274.79</b>

### STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1958

<b>INCOME:</b>		<b>EXPENSES:</b>	
Per Capita .....	\$1,224,116.47	Officers—Salaries, Travel & Other Expenses .....	\$ 117,574.78
Initiations and Reinstatements .....	15,041.00	Office Salaries and Expenses .....	37,671.01
Other Income .....	8,685.27	Area Salaries and Expenses .....	581,920.62
		Editorial Salaries and Expenses .....	37,632.47
<b>Total Income .....</b>	<b>\$1,247,842.74</b>	Payroll Taxes .....	9,986.99
		Per Capita—Affiliations .....	97,770.00
<b>EXPENSES:</b>		Meeting Conferences and Conventions .....	66,446.51
Officers—Salaries, Travel & Other Expenses .....	\$ 117,574.78	Office Expenses .....	47,635.75
Office Salaries and Expenses .....	37,671.01		
Area Salaries and Expenses .....	581,920.62	Depreciation .....	4,182.04
Editorial Salaries and Expenses .....	37,632.47	Publications .....	91,053.88
Payroll Taxes .....	9,986.99	Legal .....	8,850.00
Per Capita—Affiliations .....	97,770.00	Auditing .....	2,456.66
Meeting Conferences and Conventions .....	66,446.51	Death Benefits .....	52,600.00
Office Expenses .....	47,635.75	Insurance Expense .....	1,463.01
		Donations and Gifts .....	8,030.42
		Miscellaneous Expenses .....	4,071.61
		Staff Welfare Expense .....	39,085.64
		Legislative Research Expense .....	2,700.00
		Education and Research .....	1,023.06
		Strike Expenses .....	2,443.55
		<b>Total Expenses .....</b>	<b>\$1,214,598.00</b>
		<b>Net Gain for Year .....</b>	<b>\$33,244.74</b>

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### Note on Change of Address

When sending in a change of address to The Record, please make sure to include your old address as well as the new, and your local's number.

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rwdsu RECORD

# LABOR RALLY IN WASHINGTON APRIL 8 SPOTLIGHTS PLIGHT OF UNEMPLOYED

WASHINGTON—The serious plight of tens of thousands of workers who face the spectre of permanent joblessness will be spotlighted April 8 by the AFL-CIO at a large-scale unemployment conference in Washington. The special one-day session authorized by the AFL-CIO Executive Council at its recent mid-winter meeting will bring working and unemployed trade unionists, mostly from the eastern half of the country, to the capital's National Armory.

In a letter to all affiliated national and international unions, AFL-CIO Pres. George Meany outlined the objectives and the mechanics of the conference and called on the unions to assume responsibility for sending delegates on the basis of the union's membership strength.

## Executive Board To Meet In San Juan, P.R.

Growing labor interest in Puerto Rico as an important field for organizing will be underscored this month when the International Executive Board of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union meets in San Juan, P.R. for the first time. The four-day Board session opens on Monday, March 30 and continues through Thursday, April 2.

The RWDSU session follows similar meetings held in Puerto Rico last November by the Int'l Ladies Garment Workers' Union, and last month by the Executive Council of the AFL-CIO.

The Executive Board will hear reports from officers on various aspects of union activities, and will discuss present and future plans for organizing the unorganized. Fund-raising drives for Histadrut and for the AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education will get special attention.

## Great Interest Shown In Travel to Europe

Letters and postcards have deluged RWDSU headquarters since the last issue of The Record offered to provide information on group travel to Europe via chartered airlines. Because the response shows a definite interest on the part of many members in traveling abroad, arrangements are being made for further assistance to these members, to enable them to vacation in Europe at substantial savings compared with usual travel costs. Three-week charter tours cost about \$650, all expenses included; four-week tours are about \$750.

There is still time to obtain full information on flying to Europe this summer or fall with a union group. Write to Travel Dept., RWDSU Record, 132 West 43 Street, New York 36, N. Y.

A quota of 107 delegates has been assigned to the RWDSU, Pres. Max Greenberg said, adding that the International "will certainly meet this figure on April 8." Locals that are particularly hard hit by unemployment, including District 65 in New York, Local 1064 in Detroit, and Local 149 in West Virginia, will send the bulk of the delegates.

Meany stressed that the delegates be "properly credentialed" because "elements outside of labor will attempt to capitalize on this meeting and we must see that they are not successful."

### 'Deeply Disturbed'

This conference, he said, "is a conference of serious men and women concerned with a serious problem—not only to workers but to the nation. America is in serious trouble because of unemployment. It is a problem that cannot be really told in terms of statistics. This is a problem of suffering people."

The unemployment conference, Meany said, was set up by the council which "was deeply disturbed by the attitude displayed in Washington by the Administration and the Congress."

"They do not seem to look on the unemployment situation as being serious," he said, "but rather as something from which we will recover without serious effect on the national economy."

As the April 8 meeting date neared, the unemployment problem grew more critical. The number of unemployed is now reported as 4,700,000. Their plight is shown in the fact that more than 125,000 men and women in Michigan alone have exhausted their jobless benefits.

While the House of Representatives has passed a temporary, three-month extension of the Federal program for aiding the unemployed, the AFL-CIO has denounced this bill as practically worthless, covering only a handful of states and a small proportion of the unemployed. A small band of Senate liberals is fighting for more meaningful legislation that would set up Federal standards



for all states, and would cover all unemployed.

Both the Eisenhower Administration and the economy bloc in Congress had obviously hoped that the unemployment problems could be pushed under the rug without providing any more Federal funds this year. The President even went so far as to announce that expiration of the Federal temporary aid program on

March 31 would help "balance the budget."

The AFL-CIO has pointed to the steadily growing numbers of jobless workers—now only 700,000 less than when emergency legislation was enacted last year—and the fact that the number of unemployed who have exhausted both their first and second round benefits has increased instead of decreased.

## RWDSUers Press for Minimum Wage Extension

WASHINGTON—Representatives of RWDSU from three states participated last week in the AFL-CIO crash program to insure passage of bills extending minimum wage coverage to more than seven million additional workers, and raising the minimum to \$1.25.

This facet of the AFL-CIO anti-recession campaign is being carried on by 19 International unions through the Joint Minimum Wage Committee. Immediate object of the drive is to increase purchasing power of workers in the lowest-paid categories.

Emory Wolff, vice president of the Girard Toy Makers Local 850, Girard, Pa., was one of a delegation of labor representatives from New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Michigan who buttonholed members of the Senate and House Labor Committees. They urged upon the legislators the importance of holding hearings on the Kennedy-Morse-Roosevelt minimum wage bills as soon as possible.

Wolff reported that Congressman Carroll D. Kearns, ranking Republican member of the House committee, promised to support the bills. It was estimated that the extended coverage

would take in some 350,000 more wage-earners in Pennsylvania.

"This, in turn, would increase the purchasing power of these Pennsylvanians by \$95,000,000," Wolff said. "Therefore, it would greatly contribute to the state's economy."

Two other RWDSU representatives, Regional Director Gerald A. Hughes of Columbus, O., and Int'l Rep. Edgar L. Johnson, Huntington, W. Va., attended a conference here held by the Joint Minimum Wage Committee. This was one of a series of area staff conferences held throughout the country during the last two weeks in March to plan a grass-roots campaign for support of the legislation among local union members and in their home communities. The area represented at this conference covered Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia. RWDSU Legislative Representative Kenneth A. Meljejohn participated in both phases of the drive in Washington.



Meeting with Senator Joseph Clark of Pennsylvania on minimum wage legislation, trade unionists from his state included Emory Wolff (seated, right) of RWDSU's Local 850 in Girard, Pa.

# LABOR NEWS ROUNDUP

## Key Steel Negotiations Open May 18 in New York

PITTSBURGH (PAI)—The most important labor-management negotiations of 1959, between the United Steelworkers and Big Steel, get underway on May 1. On this date the USW bargaining committee will meet with the nation's number one steel producer, U.S. Steel Corporation, at the Roosevelt Hotel in New York City. Bargaining will follow with other producers.

About 500,000 members of the Steelworkers are directly involved in the outcome of the negotiations.

On April 30 and May 1 the 170-member wage policy committee of the union will meet to work out specific contract demands. USW Pres. David J. McDonald said this meeting will probably be held in New York City, too. The wage policy committee is composed of rank-and-file union members, district and international union officials.

The union is already on record that it will ask for "substantial" contract improvements. These would include wages, medical-surgical hospitalization benefits, pensions, supplementary unemployment compensation, vacations and a shorter work-week.

McDonald joined with R. Conrad Cooper, executive vice president, personnel services U.S. Steel, in announcing the date of the negotiations.

May 18 will be six weeks before the expiration of the contract. In anticipation of a strike, steel inventory has been building up at a rapid rate. The Wall Street Journal reports that inventories will have reached an average of 90 days' supply on hand when the three year contracts expire July 1.

McDonald has stated on a number of occasions that the Steelworkers hope to arrive at a new settlement without a strike. However, he has noted that "critical months lie ahead."

Leading union negotiators, in addition to McDonald, will be Vice President Howard Hague, Secretary-Treasurer I. W. Abel and General Counsel Arthur Goldberg.

Soon after May 18 negotiations will start with the other two of the Big Three—Bethlehem and Republic Steel.

## Job Rights for Draftees

WASHINGTON—Reemployment rights for persons called to military service continue unchanged in the four-year extension of the Selective Service Act voted by Congress.

Persons who leave jobs—other than temporary jobs—to enter the military service are entitled to reemployment if they apply within 90 days after their release from military service.

Their job rights are based on a reconstruction of their status had they remained on the company's payroll instead of entering the service. They are credited with full seniority for the time spent in military service and are entitled to all automatic promotions which they would have received had they been continuously employed.

If there has been a cutback in employment during the veteran's military service, however, the returning worker might find himself on layoff or bumped to a lower-paying job if it is determined that this would have occurred had he remained with the company.

Administration and interpretation of the job rights of returning servicemen remains with the Labor Dept.'s Bureau of Veterans' Reemployment Rights.



**COLUMBUS STRIKE PAPER:** Don Mullin, circulation manager, displays first copy of Columbus Daily News, which started on March 8 to fill the news gap caused by pressmen strike in Ohio city. Other employees of the Columbus Citizen and Dispatch, totaling 290, were "furloughed" by the papers.

## AFL-CIO Asks Hearings On Supreme Court Curb

WASHINGTON—The AFL-CIO has asked the House Judiciary Committee to hold full public hearings on a bill sponsored by Rep. Howard Smith (D-Va.), which would revamp the entire structure of federal-state relationships.

The bill is similar to one which cleared the House last year but was bottled up in the Senate. Designed to rebuke the Supreme Court for decisions on segregation and civil liberties, it is so sweeping that it could upset the long-standing doctrine that federal laws take precedence where federal and state laws collide.

In a letter to Rep. Emanuel Celler (D-N.Y.), chairman of the committee, AFL-CIO Legislative Dir. Andrew J. Blemiller put the labor movement on record as being "strongly opposed to this measure."

Blemiller noted that the American Bar Association, which supported "states' rights" legislation in the past, has reversed its position. The lawyers' group now recommends that, in specific cases of congressional disagreement with court rulings, the matter be solved with amendments to the laws in question.

The AFL-CIO spokesman expressed concern over the fact that a House Judiciary subcommittee reported the bill to the general committee, adding: "We feel confident that even those who disagree with our position will agree that so important and controversial a measure should not be acted on without full public hearings."

## Real 'Work' Law Needed

NEW YORK (PAI)—The New York Post, noting that the "backers of the anti-union 'right to work' laws have announced the renewal of the crusade so rudely rejected at the polls in November," adds:

"We herewith propose the start of an authentic 'right to work' drive, designed to secure employment for more than four millions who are still out of jobs. Any sponsors? Any ideas?"

## NLRB Examiner Nails Kohler Guilt Again

WASHINGTON—Five hundred additional pages of testimony, piled on top of the previous record of 20,000 pages, have only served to convince Trial Examiner George A. Downing of the National Labor Relations Board that he was correct in his earlier decision that the Kohler Co. was guilty of unfair labor practices.

That is what he told the NLRB in what he hoped would be his final report on charges the Auto Workers filed against the Kohler, Wis., plumbing wares firm after the start of a strike that began Apr. 5, 1954, and is still unsettled.

At the same time, Downing urged speedy disposition of the charges by the NLRB as "a step which will lead ultimately to a resolution of the strike."

"There is nothing else now foreseeable which will do so," he declared. "It is therefore plain that, in the public interest, this litigation should be brought to an end as soon as possible."

The NLRB was studying Downing's original report when the McClellan Committee held hearings on the strike at which the parties exchanged charges. It ordered supplemental hearings to consider testimony before the committee.

In his report, Downing said that during the subsequent hearings the company went through "what amounted to an effort to reargue completely the different issues," specifically a new unfair labor practice charge that the firm had spied on union members.

He rejected the new motions, he reported, but only after studying them carefully lest the board later rule he had "misconceived the scope of the hearing."

The earlier report he has now reaffirmed found the company guilty of a series of unfair practices, chiefly two wage increases it granted without notifying the union.

In addition, he recommended that Kohler be ordered to bargain in good faith with the UAW and to furnish the union with payroll information it had asked. He also ruled that 32 of 90 strikers were unlawfully discharged by the company and recommended they be ordered reinstated at the end of the strike.

## Service to Puerto Ricans

NEW YORK CITY—Plans are under way to broaden the program of the AFL-CIO Community Service to include service to the growing Puerto Rican population, it was announced this week.

Leo Perlis, national director of CSA, said his organization is currently preparing Spanish translations of two CSA pamphlets, "Services for the Unemployed" and "Family Counseling for the Union Member" and is arranging to launch cooperative projects with religious and social welfare groups aimed at Puerto Ricans.

The CSA director said: "We must take a greater interest in the plight of our fellow-citizens from Puerto Rico who are frequently fleeced in terms of housing, jobs, politics and economics. Attention must be paid also to their consumer problems."

He expressed the hope that other service agencies would work together with labor "by providing useful materials to Puerto Ricans in their own language."

## Book Tells How to Take a Case Before Labor Board

WASHINGTON, (PAI)—Most members of organized labor would just as soon see the Taft-Hartley Act dropped into the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. But as long as they have to live with it, they need to understand thoroughly what actually is in it and how it works.

This is no easy job. Taft-Hartley is an amazingly complex law that has kept both labor and management lawyers busy for the past 10 years, and even to this day there is much disagreement on many aspects of its operation.

To help both labor and management thread its ways through the law's maze, Louis G. Silverberg, National Labor Relations Board public relations director, has prepared an unusually readable and clear explanation of the act and how it works.

He calls it "How to Take a Case Before the National Labor Relations Board." It is a completely revised edition of a similar work published by Silverberg in 1950 and is particularly valuable because of the experience in the law's operations gained since then.

Silverberg has been with the NLRB for more than 20 years, so he brings to his job knowledge of the working of the Wagner Act as well as today's Taft-Hartley amendments.

Of particular interest to unions is Chapter III which describes the procedures that unions must follow to comply and keep in compliance with the statutory filing requirements. Silverberg points out, for example, that before a union can have any standing with the NLRB under the compliance provisions it must file no less than seven technical documents—some with the Board, some with the Department of Labor and some with both agencies. These requirements apply not simply to large international unions, but to every local union which may desire to utilize the Board's facilities.

In the following chapters, entitled "How to Determine Union's Majority Status," there is presented a step-by-step account of the procedures followed in representation cases—proceedings up to formal hearing; from hearing through election; and proceedings after election.

For reference purposes, the complete text of the La-

bor-Management Relations Act of 1947, the Board's Rules and Regulations, and the delegation memorandum on the functions of the General Counsel of the Board are included as an appendix. There are also directions of the Board's regional offices and of federal and state mediation agencies.

The book contains 58 facsimile reproductions of the major forms—for petitions and charges, notices, orders and ballots—used in every type of NLRB proceeding. Some of these forms are not conveniently accessible to all persons, so that the collection of so many documents in one reference work fills a long-felt need.

Union officials, labor lawyers, or anyone else whose work or interests bring him into contact with the NLRB should find this authoritative guide a valuable addition to his source and reference material.

**HOW TO TAKE A CASE BEFORE THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD**, by Louis G. Silverberg, published by the Bureau of National Affairs, Inc., 1231 24th St., N.W., Washington 7, D.C. \$7.85.

# Union Awaits Macy Offer as Deadline Nears

NEW YORK CITY—Eight thousand R. H. Macy employees, members of Local 1-S, are approaching their March 31 contract expiration with no settlement yet in sight with the world's largest department store. A membership meeting on Wednesday evening, April 1, at Manhattan Center, 34th Street and 8th Avenue, will be asked to give strike authorization to the local Executive Board and 30-member negotiating committee, it was reported by '1-S' Pres. Sam Kovenetsky.



Signing pact at Worth's Specialty Store in Waterbury, Conn., for Local 282 is Chief Steward Joseph Pasternaster. Others in group are, l. to r., Peter Trier, the store's general manager and vice president; Maurice Jackson, secretary-treasurer; Mitchell Senich, union committee member; Local 282 Pres. Charles Greenberg and committee member Eithne Gauthier.

As this issue of The Record went to press, negotiating sessions with management were slated to be held on Thursday, March 26, and Monday, March 30. "We hope that management will come up with an offer on the major contract issues at these meetings which we can present to our membership on April 1," Kovenetsky said. "And of course we hope that it will be an acceptable offer."

Although more than ten negotiating sessions have been held since contract talks at Macy's opened Jan. 20, each of which had averaged about four hours, management has yet to make a concrete offer on the "money" demands. Thus far talks have largely dealt with contract language on job security, store operations and other "non-money" issues.

## Demands of Local 1-S

Local 1-S, in presenting its demands, has called for substantial increases in wages, commissions and minimum rates; shorter hours; improvements in vacations, holidays and sick leave; additional health and welfare coverage; a big increase in pensions; and a number of minor demands which would eliminate inequities and improve working conditions. It is on this package that the union is awaiting an offer from management.

Although technically the Macy employees will be working without a union contract as of April 1, Kovenetsky said that "our members will continue to work as long as we continue to negotiate."

How long will that be?

"Well," said Kovenetsky, "we will keep on negotiating as long as the company shows it is seeking in good faith to work out a settlement with us of the problems that exist between the employees and management. We regard the weapon of a strike as something to be used as a last resort. We are prepared, in the coming negotiating sessions with management, to meet around the clock if necessary in order to resolve our differences."

## First Talks Since '56

The present contract with Macy's was due to expire Jan. 31, but was automatically extended two months to March 31, on the basis that all benefits in the new agreement are to be made retroactive to Feb. 1. The current negotiations are the first to be held since April 1956, when agreement on the present contract ended a 13-day strike at the five Macy stores in the New York metropolitan area.

## 4 Mass. Locals Elect Officers

LEOMINSTER, Mass.—Results of elections held recently in four locals in this area have been announced by Thomas J. Leone, New England Regional Director. The results follow:

Local 60, Foster Grant Company, Leominster. Elected to office for a two-year term: Pres. Rocco Messina; Sec.-Treas. Ralph DeCarolis; Rec. Sec. Helen Hathorne; Vice-Pres., Gloria Allridge; Sergeant-At-Arms Alcide St. Germaine. The above officers were installed at the monthly meeting held March 14 by Leone.

Local 61, Leominster. Elected for a two-year term: Pres. Salvatore Perla; Vice-Pres. Charles Whittington; Rec. Sec. Ethel Alexander; Sec.-Treas. Louis Donais; Sergeant-at-Arms Wilfred Emmond; Trustees Loretta Landry, Katy Varville, Louis Lambert.

Local 77, Commonwealth Plastics Co., Leominster. Elected for a two-year term: Pres. Mario Del Bove; Vice-Pres. Danny Serrina; Sec.-Treas. Claire Rivers; re-elected were Rec. Sec. Marjorie Skeans and Trustees Walter Pieporia, Joseph Quastello and Benny Tata.

Local 875, Celluplastics Corp., Fitchburg. Re-elected for a two-year term: Pres. Herman Bourque; Sec.-Treas. Gladys Bodanza; Vice-Pres. Robert Wyant; Rec. Sec. Dorothy Warchol; Trustees Alice Barrett, William Brown and James Sergi.

## Talks On in Pact Reopener For Phone Answer Girls

NEW YORK CITY—Negotiations are underway on a reopening in the contract covering the 1,500 members of Local 780, Telephone Answering Service Union. The contract expires April 1, 1960. In reporting the expiration date of the contract in the last issue of The Record, the year was omitted, leaving the impression that the expiration date is April 1, 1959.

## 85 Win \$3 Weekly Raise At Worth's in Waterbury

WATERBURY, Conn.—A weekly pay boost of \$3 has been won in a new agreement for the 85 employees of Worth's Specialty Store here, it was announced by Local 282 Pres. Charles Greenberg and Sec.-Treas. John Cooney.

## Heads Local 670 In New York City



JOHN FINGER is the newly-elected president of RWDSU's Local 670, Building Service Employees. Also voted into office were Business Mgr. Thomas Bagley, Sec.-Treas. William Richmond, Vice-Pres. Timothy Quill and Rec. Sec. Edward Campbell. A three-man Board of Trustees and a 15-member Executive Board for the local were also elected.

## \$3 at Boston Shoe Firm

BOSTON, Mass.—A weekly pay raise of \$3 was won in a new agreement recently negotiated with the Dr. Scholl's Shoe Store here, it was reported by Business Rep. Irving Rich of the RWDSU New England Joint Board. Also won was a third week vacation for the store's employees.

Substantially improved hospitalization and other welfare benefits are also provided by the new pact, including ten days sick leave. In addition, the agreement calls for two weeks paid vacation and seven paid holidays.

Though the contract runs for two years, Greenberg said, the union and the store management agreed to meet at the end of the first year to discuss wages and further welfare program improvements.

Assisting Greenberg and Cooney in the successful talks was a union negotiating committee consisting of Chief Steward Joseph Pasternaster, Mitchell Senich and Eithne Gauthier.

## 250 to Vote in Vermont Supermarkets

Union Seen Victor in NLRB Election April 17-18 at First National Stores

BOSTON, Mass.—A two-day representation election among the 250 employees of the First National Stores will be held April 17 and 18, and the New England Joint Board is confident that the RWDSU will be named as bargaining representative. First National operates ten supermarkets throughout the state of Vermont. The organizing campaign among the workers dates from a year ago. The National Labor Relations Board recently set the election dates, it was reported by Joint Board Pres. Joseph Honan.

On the ballot will be a choice of RWDSU, the RCIA and no-union.

"The reception we've been accorded among the First National employees has been very good, and we are confident that we have an excellent chance of winning," said Board Vice-Pres. Frank Dumas, who has been heading the organizing campaign.

He has been aided in the drive by Board Vice-Presidents Irving Rich, George Mooney and Joseph Casey.

National's supermarkets are located over a wide area of Vermont, and union meetings are being held almost daily on a regional basis up to election time.

## Shoe Warehouse Settles

BOSTON, Mass.—A new agreement has been reached at the John Irving Shoe Stores warehouses, the New England Joint Board reported. The 48 employees, under terms of a recent settlement, receive wage raises ranging from \$3 to \$9. All employees with over three years' service get \$4; those with less come under a new progression program over an 18-month period giving them from \$3 to \$9 increases.

The newly established Pension Fund at the warehouse is to be financed by an additional \$8 per month contribution by the company for each employee, under terms of the new agreement. It is retroactive to Oct. 15, 1958.

Leading negotiations with the warehouse management for the union were Joint Board Vice-Pres. Irving Rich, Shop Steward N. Cornelia, R. Lee, A. McTague, S. Giarragato and D. Saulnier.

Contract negotiations are now going on with the Antell, Kay's Newport and Charles Sumner shoe chains and with the Cinderella shoe shop. Rogers Jewelry chain stores are also in negotiations with the union, as is the Parke Davis warehouse.

## The Midwest



### Indiana Joint Board

met in Anderson, Ind. for first time in its twelve-year history. The other sessions, every three months, were either in Indianapolis or South Bend. Clockwise, the members of the Board shown above are Franklin Martin, Int'l Rep. Joe Romer, Thomas Brownlee, James Hackett, Virgil Terry, Leland Fisher, Russell Baker, Pres. Ralph Hillegas, Regional Dir. Jerry Hughes, Sec. Treas. Dan Roser, Dave Goyer, Larry Kendzoria, Ray Absher, Int'l Rep. Al Bregnard and Roy Mundy. Absher, president of Local 870, was newly elected to the Board. The delegates represent a total membership of almost 1,500 in Indiana. At the Anderson meeting, they heard an organization report by Romer and Bregnard, and a report on the Board's new by-laws by Hughes.



Etta Sanders, left, holds plaque honoring memory of the late Jack Greenwald, as Sally Fash, Henry Anderson, Bernard Jacobson of Histadrut, Carl Sanzone and Manuel Galladora look on.



RWDSU Pres. Max Greenberg addresses convention. Also seen are Sec.-Treas. Alvin Heaps and Mrs. Henry Anderson.

### Chicago Joint Board

held its seventh biennial constitutional convention on March 15. Elections of officers and the Executive Board were held; and reports were given by Pres. Henry B. Anderson and Sec.-Treas. Sally Fash. Re-elected were Anderson and Miss Fash, along with Vice-Pres. Carl C. Sanzone and Sgt.-at-Arms Max Cohen. Named to the Executive Board were Irene Zapos, Rae Cooper, Al Channin, Etta Sanders, Henry Curley, Joseph Coles, Benny Sanzone, Manuel Galladora, John Walker and Agnes Moore. Officers and Board members were all formally installed by Int'l Pres. Max Greenberg at banquet which climaxed the convention program. Sec.-Treas. Al Heaps, who chaired the nominations meeting, was another banquet speaker. Dan Healy, AFL-CIO Regional Director also addressed the delegates.

## Officers and Wives Banquet Shows Local 379's Growth

COLUMBUS, O.—The eighth annual Officers and Wives banquet of Local 379 was held here on March 14 with guests representing '379' units from every part of Ohio and West Virginia.

The affair reflected the marked growth of the local in the past eight years. In 1951, only 50 were at the first banquet. At the March 14 event, the 250 guests, representing 42 units and 1,800 members, filled the banquet hall of the Seneca Hotel to capacity.

Among the guests were RWDSU Pres. Max Greenberg, Sec.-Treas. Alvin Heaps, and Regional Director Jerry Hughes. Also attending this year's banquet were Int'l Reps. Edgar Johnson and Charles Hess, and delegations from Local 21 and Local 612.

Greenberg, speaker of the evening, declared that trade unionism was the best protection of workers during the current period of unemployment and transition to automation.

Each officer was presented with an AFL-CIO lapel pin and their wives with a corsage and two scatter pins. Six lucky wives also won door prizes.

An entertainment program featuring several comedy acts was followed by dancing.

Below is an overall view of the banquet, with officers and honored guests at head table at the right.



Unit Chairman Don Curran, soon to retire, gets life membership card from Int'l Rep. Vern Ulery at Local 379 Officers and Wives banquet.



## Labor Sparks Consumer Protest Against Union-Busting

### 'Don't Buy at A & P' Campaign Off to Great Start in Tenn.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.—“A terrific response” to the “Don't Buy at A & P” campaign was reported last week by Int'l Rep. Ed Rosenhahn, as nearly 100,000 leaflets were distributed at plant gates and in front of A & P stores in this part of Eastern Tennessee. The consumer protest against the wave of anti-union firings, demotions and discrimination against RWDSU members began March 10 and has been gaining widespread attention throughout the area, Rosenhahn reported.

Three top labor leaders in Knoxville, Oak Ridge and Alcoa are serving as a committee to rally labor support of the boycott. They are Fred Comer, president of the Knoxville Central Labor Council; James Ferguson, secretary of the Oak Ridge Central Labor Council; and Delmar Vineyard, president of Steelworkers Local 309. Through their cooperation and assistance, union members are being made sharply aware of A & P's union-busting activities.

The initial concentration point of the campaign was Alcoa, a town a few miles from Knoxville where the giant plant of the Aluminum Corporation of America, for which the town was named, is located. The 6,000 employees at the plant are members of Local 309 of the Steelworkers.

Distribution of leaflets appealing to the Alcoa work-



ers to “pass A & P by” when they do their food marketing has been coupled with distribution in front of the store in that town. The RWDSUers handing out

the leaflets include some of the 13 active union members fired by the company. Their personal appeal for consumer support is having a remarkable effect, Rosenhahn said. Sales volume at the Alcoa store has been cut practically in half, he added.

At the seven other stores too, as the campaign goes into high gear, there are reports of consumer response that Rosenhahn calls “most encouraging.” Gross sales are down sharply, and many customers have informed managers that they will not trade at A & P until it stops its unfair treatment of union members. At all stores, managers are continuing to treat employees “with kid gloves,” it was reported.

The leaflet which is sparking this reaction is a four-page printed one issued in the name of the discharged workers, nine of whose photos appear on it. Headed “We Appeal to You,” it tells the story of how they were fired for union activity.

The leaflet points out: “If A & P can get away with depriving its workers of their rights under the law, then other employers may be tempted to do the same thing. The result would be chaos. A & P must be persuaded to respect the law and the rights of its employees here in Tennessee, just as it is compelled to do in many other parts of the country where customers have insisted that A & P treat its employees fairly. A & P customers here can also help persuade the company to mend its way.”



**ARMED WITH RIOT GUN**, highway patrolman stands guard in strife-torn Henderson, N.C., as members of Local 578, Textile Workers Union of America, picket struck Harriet-Henderson Cotton Mills. TWUA Vice-Pres. Boyd E. Payton was brutally beaten in mysterious pre-dawn attack by goons who invaded his motel room. Beating touched off a wave of picket line disorders bringing out more than 135 highway patrolmen.

## Election Victory Seen in Ga. At Better Maid Dairy Plant

ATHENS, Ga.—An election conducted by the National Labor Relations Board among the 60 employees of Better Maid Dairy here is expected to name the RWDSU's Local 315 as their collective bargaining representative.

The vote will be held at an early date, Int'l Rep. Guy Dickinson reported.

Almost all of the 60 workers have joined the union, he said, virtually assuring an RWDSU victory.

The company put up tough resistance at the NLRB hearing. Its representative, which Dickinson called “the most anti-union law firm in Georgia,” placed several obstacles in the way to prolong the hearing for several days.

The company spokesman first made an effort to include supervisors in the voting unit, and then tried to include the employees of two other Better Maid Dairy plants, each of them more than 50 miles away from Athens. The company's effort failed.

The other two Better Maid plants are not yet organized, but the RWDSU is planning to start campaigns there soon, Dickinson said.

### 30 at Borden's Dairy Join in Mobile, Ala.

MOBILE, Ala.—With all 30 employees signed up in the RWDSU, an election will be held at the Borden's Dairy here soon which will establish the union as their collective bargaining representative.

Many of the Borden's employees had earlier joined another union, but when they learned that the RWDSU was the union of other dairy workers in Mobile, they soon switched, it was explained by Alabama Council Org. C. T. Daniels. Barber's Dairy here has long been an RWDSU shop.

Borden's Dairies have been organized by the RWDSU in three other Alabama cities: Gadsden, Huntsville and Decatur.

## Contract Talks Break Off With A & P in Birmingham; Warehouse Strike Looms

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Negotiations for renewal of a contract between the RWDSU and the management of the A&P warehouse have been broken off, Int'l Rep. Bill Langston reported. A possible strike is in the offing.

Talks had been in progress over a period of two months without the semblance of a wage offer from the company. Langston, leading the negotiations, finally announced that the union, discontinuing the talks, would await word from the management.

The current two-year contract at the A&P warehouse expires on March 30. Under the agreement, the union is required to issue a 30-day notice in the event of an anticipated strike. That was the state of affairs as The Record went to press March 25.

Some 120 RWDSU members work in the warehouse, which services a total of 45 A&P supermarkets in the state of Alabama.

### Bakery Drive Begins

With all the major bakeries in Birmingham organized in the RWDSU, the union is completing its drive to bring in the smaller shops, it was announced by Ass't Area Dir. Frank Parker.

Most recent shop where success has been scored is the Rutland Bakery. A majority of its 25 employees has been signed up by Int'l Rep. Lester Bettice and Alabama Council Org. Henry Jenkins, and a petition for an election has been filed with the National Labor Relations Board.

### Third Scrap Company Organized in B'ham

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—The 25 employees of the Jefferson Iron & Metal Co., scrap dealers, are drafting their demands for their first RWDSU agreement. This is the third such plant organized in RWDSU in Birmingham.

Contacted by Alabama Council Org. Henry Jenkins, the workers joined the union within a short period of time. Recognition of the RWDSU was given by the company and an election was therefore unnecessary. The workers will become affiliated with Local 261.

What impressed the Jefferson employees most about the RWDSU, Jenkins pointed out, is that the union has provided wage rates up to 15 cents more per hour for the organized workers at two other scrapyards in Birmingham—Jaffee Wohl, and the National Tire & Salvage Co.

## 'Bombing' Trial Postponed

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—The trial of John Richardson, one of the two Perfection Mattress Co. strike leaders indicted on phony bombing charges, has been postponed to April 27. It had been set for March 30. No date has been fixed for the trial of his co-defendant, Alexander White, who was indicted separately on the same trumped-up charge last month.

Richardson and White are accused in a company-inspired plot of the bombing of a scab's home here last November. Fabricated evidence was whipped up hysterically against the men by the Birmingham press, cooperating with the union-busting company. The indictments followed.

With death as the possible penalty for conviction on the charge under Alabama law, organized labor in the city and the state has rallied to the trade unionists' support.

## Canada

# 10c Increase, Higher Rates Won by 150 in Winnipeg At McDonald Consolidated

WINNIPEG, Man.—An across-the-board increase of 10 cents an hour has been won in a new contract covering some 150 workers employed at McDonald's Consolidated (Safeway), it was reported by Int'l Rep. Chris Schubert. Retroactive to Oct. 1, 1958, the wage boost brings up to \$80 in back pay for each employee.

The current cost-of-living bonus in the agreement adds another six cents per hour to all wage rates as of February, 1959. That leaves five cents per hour remaining in the COL bonus, which is adjustable every three months.

A new classification was established for freezer men, who receive an additional five cents an hour under the contract. Premiums of one cent to 8½ cents an hour are provided for night work.

Three weeks vacation is now to be given to employees after 10 years of service. An improved medical plan by the company is expected soon, Schubert said.

The negotiating committee, led by Schubert, consisted of G. Turley, G. Fletcher and T. Whittebolle of the Grocery Section; and F. Bochen, J. Faas and L. Cadotte of the Produce Section.

### Big Raises at Bathurst

Pay hikes of 24 to 27 cents an hour for male workers and 19 cents for female workers were gained in a new two-year contract with Bathurst Containers, Ltd., with 14 to 16 cents paid to the men this year and 10 to 11 next year. The women are to receive 11 cents this year and eight cents in 1960.

A reduction in hours was also negotiated. This year, the work schedule will be a 5-day, 42-hour week, and a two-hour cut commences March 1, 1960. Vacations were also improved; and one additional holiday—Boxing Day—was added for a total of nine.

The negotiating committee at Bathurst, led by Schubert, consisted of Mike Horaski, Charles Pahl and Evelyn Meilieur.

### 2 Winnipeg Locals Elect New Officers

WINNIPEG, Man.—New officers and committees for two RWDSU locals have been announced for 1959. The following members were named at Local 650:

Harry Sanders, president; Pat Marigold, vice-president; R. H. Bell, secretary-treasurer; Nellie Stewart, recording secretary; and D. Hilder, warden. New stewards are: R. Richen, bake shop; William Boyd, sanitation; A. Schellenberg, maintenance; R. Armitage and Olive Komokoski, packing and icing; and J. Smith, night sanitation. Delegates to the Winnipeg and District Labor Council are Boyd and Sanders.

Named at Local 560 are: R. E. McKelrea, president; A. J. Cruise, vice-president; Steve Ridiger, secretary-treasurer; Steve Johnson, recording secretary, and J. Moore, warden. On the Grievance and Negotiating Committee are McKelrea, Cruise, A. Guinness and G. Chorney. Delegate to the Winnipeg and District Labor Council is Guinness.

## Growth Reported In Credit Union

TORONTO, Ont.—The membership of the Local 414 Credit Union has increased to 600 and its assets have risen to over \$34,000, it was reported at the third annual meeting last month. A 3½% dividend was voted to all shareholders.

A vote of thanks was extended at the meeting to members of the Board of Directors and of the Credit and Supervisory Committees, and to collectors, all of whom contributed their time to the success of the Credit Union during 1958.

Members of the Board of Directors are: Robert Smith, president; Donald Tait, treasurer; Maurice Crook, vice president; Walter Fraser, secretary; and Noel McConney and James Phillips, directors. The Credit Committee consists of Norman Eason, chairman; Arthur Smailes and Mary Jephson. Miss Jephson is the office secretary of Local 414. On the Supervisory Committee are Harold Wells, chairman, and Garnet Denning and Peter Robertson.

## Beverage Groups Win Raises in Sydney

SYDNEY, N.S.—Pay boosts ranging from \$2 to \$7.20 were won for the employees of two beverage plants here in recently negotiated agreements, Local 596 Business Agent J. D. White reported.

At the local Coca Cola plant, the workers receive raises of from \$2 to \$7.20 a week under the contract. It was negotiated with the aid of a Conciliation Service officer, together with committee members Steve McGillivray and Becky McDonald, assisted by White.

The settlement reached at McKinley Beverages gives employees wage increases of \$2.40 to \$7, based on a one-year contract. Negotiations here were led by a committee including Wilmot LeClair and Ian McKinnon, aided by White.

White said that the talks at McKinley were carried on in "a most fair and harmonious manner."

## Marjority in Sydney At Weston's Market

SYDNEY, N.S.—With an overwhelming majority of the employees signed at Weston's supermarket here, Local 596 has applied for certification of the union by the Nova Scotia Labor Relations Board.

Business Agent J. D. White said that the wages presently paid to male clerks at Weston's are "well below" the statutory minimum wage for female employees in Nova Scotia.

There is no minimum wage law for male workers in the Province. The present legal minimum for female workers is \$21.60 for a 48-hour week.

"This situation at Weston's provides further proof of the dire need for a decent minimum wage law for male employees in Nova Scotia," White said.



**THEY WON THEIR FIGHT**—London's famous Beefeaters, who guard the Tower of London armed with pikes and garbed in picturesque Elizabethan costumes, are good 20th Century unionists when it comes to fighting for their rights. In recent dispute over the allowance for living quarters, their protest against whopping increase in rent gained them a boost in wages.

# Two Big Groups Sign Up With RWDSU in Toronto

TORONTO, Ont.—Two important organizing achievements were announced here by Canadian Director George Barlow.

A representation election was to be held soon among the 225 employees of the Willard Chocolate Co. here, organized by the RWDSU's Local 461. The RWDSU was certified at this plant several years ago, but soon after the company was bought out by another firm and the certification was declared null and void. Subsequently, a company union was formed.

"The employees apparently have had enough of that kind of 'union,'" said Int'l Rep. High Buchanan, who with H. R. Thorne, successfully re-organized the plant starting last December. "They will soon become part of a real union, the RWDSU, and share the benefits now enjoyed by hundreds of other confectionery workers in Local 461."

With the recent certification of two additional units, the RWDSU now represents all the food service employees at the Malton Airport here, Barlow said.

Negotiations were to begin soon for contracts covering the 140 newly organized employees of the Flight Kitchen and the Tea Wing restaurant; 90 at the former and 50 at the latter.

The application for Flight Kitchen was made almost 18 months ago, but protests by the employer, Aero Caterers, against several classifications in the bargaining unit caused long delays in final certification. By contrast, certification on the Tea Wing restaurant came only two days after the hearing on March 16.

Responsible for the successful organization of the two units were Local 414 representatives R. Higson, H. Blancher and C. Dahmer.

### '414' Dance April 18

TORONTO, Ont.—A gala Spring dance will be held on April 18 by Local 414, composed of Dominion Stores employees, at the Palace Pier, it was announced by the local's Entertainment Committee. Tickets, priced at \$1.50, may be obtained at the union's office, 62 Edward St., or from stewards. Dance music at the event will be furnished by the Trump Davidson Orchestra.

# B.C. Bosses Push New Union-Busting Law

By BUD HODGINS

International Representative, RWDSU

VANCOUVER, B.C.—Reneging on its election promises to support organized labor, British Columbia's Social Credit Government has just introduced sweeping anti-labor legislation long sought by employer groups in the Province.

Bill 43, as it is known, would replace the Trade Union Act—first passed in 1902—which provided basic rights for union organizations. The new bill, if passed, will completely eliminate the use of picket lines in a labor dispute, except in the case of a legal strike. It will also make a union a legal entity and subject to law suits.

Main points in the new bill are:

Restriction of picketing to a strike deemed legal by the Labor Relations Act; and then only at the company's premises; ban on picketing of "hot goods" or "unfair" merchandising; ban on "sympathy" strikes or "sympathy" picketing; ban on unions respecting each other's picket lines; elimination of "We

do not patronize" lists; make unions a legal entity and subject to law suits for violation of this act or the Labor Relations Act; make members, officers, locals and Internationals also subject to law suits; make unions responsible for the actions of their membership until it is proved such action has not been authorized by the union.

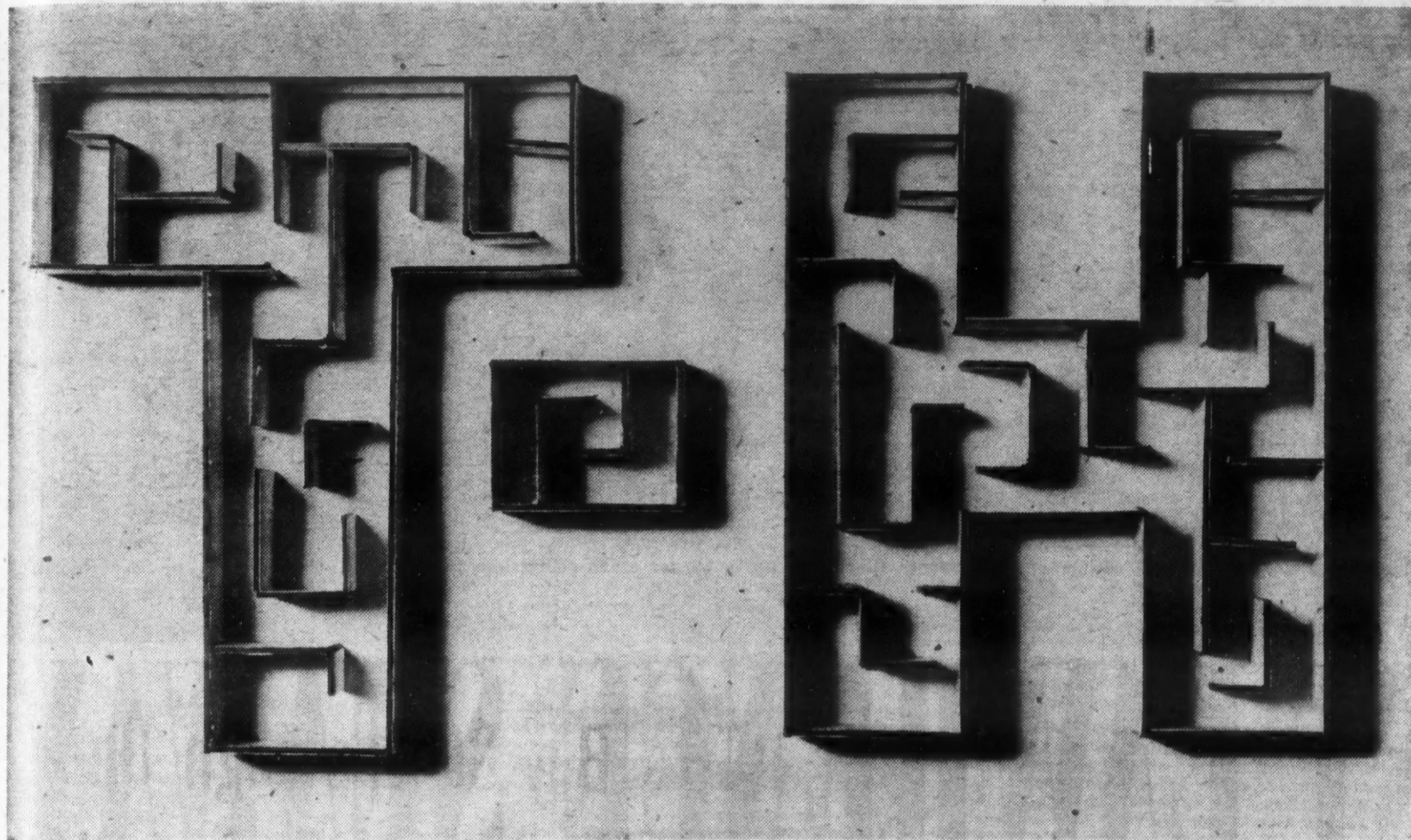
This drastic legislation will virtually tie the hands of organized labor, preventing it from doing an effective job for its membership. All unions are therefore preparing for an all-out battle against the bill.

To this end, the B.C. Federation of Labor has already started a full-scale campaign to inform the union member-

ship and the general public of the issues and to insure that they are conversant with the Government's attitude towards the laboring people in the Province.

### New '580' Executive Installed in Vancouver

VANCOUVER, B.C.—The new Executive of RWDSU Local 580 was installed at its last meeting with Int'l Rep. Bud Hodgins administering the officer's oath. Members of the Executive are: President, Vic Sanford; vice-president, Fred Clift; recording secretary, Lois Hauser; financial secretary, Dave Thompson; inside guard, Ken Kyle; outside guard, Tom East; guide, Gar Webber.



## Taft-Hartley: Its Legal Maze Traps A&P Workers Organizing in Tennessee

By MAX STEINBOCK

To many union members, the words "Taft-Hartley" stand for a law which was opposed strongly by the labor movement, and which labor is still trying to have amended or wiped out. But for these union members, sheltered within the strength of big established unions, the dangers of Taft-Hartley are rather vague and remote.

The 160 employees of the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company in Eastern Tennessee have found Taft-Hartley to be a very real and present danger. Thanks to this anti-labor law—and to the administrative machinery with which the Eisenhower Administration enforces it—the rights of workers are being flagrantly denied. A giant corporation is depriving its employees of their basic Constitutional guarantees—and is being aided by the very processes which were set up under the Taft-Hartley law to "protect" workers.

This is not the first such case. Possibly it is not even the worst. In the O'Sullivan Heel strike, the company used Taft-Hartley to destroy the union of its workers and in the process to replace union members with scabs, and there have been all too many other instances of union-busting with legal sanctions. But the A&P case is such a flagrant example of how anti-union management has the cards stacked in its favor by the law that it should be examined in detail.

The A&P story is one which points up the truth of the old saying: "Justice delayed is justice denied." Here are the facts on how justice is being delayed—and denied—in Tennessee:

Nearly two years ago, a group of A&P employees in the Knoxville area came to the regional office of the AFL-CIO seeking help in organizing. The RWDSU was asked to take on the job and agreed to do so. Int'l Rep. Ed Rosenhahn was assigned to devote full time to the campaign.

### 75% Joined in 2 Months

The drive got under way on May 1, 1957. By July 2, more than 75% of the employees in the nine A&P stores in Knoxville, Fountain City, Alcoa and Oak Ridge had joined the union. On that date, they petitioned the National Labor Relations Board to conduct a representation election.

NLRB regulations provide that such an election may be set up after an informal hearing at which employer and the union agree on the unit to be covered, the payroll date to be used in determining who is eligible to vote, and other details. This is known as a "consent" election.

The decent and straightforward thing for the A&P Co. to do at that point was to agree to a "consent" election, which its employees in Tennessee obviously wanted. But that would have meant it was not taking

advantage of the union-busting provisions of the Taft-Hartley law, which provide all kinds of time-consuming procedures for an anti-union company to use.

A&P first insisted on a formal hearing. This took place Aug. 8. The company offered various phony and even ridiculous objections—including one that would have excluded the Oak Ridge store on the fantastic grounds that it is located near Atomic Energy Commission plants—and therefore this supermarket is related to U.S. security. All these objections, silly and serious alike, had to be dealt with—and all took time.

Finally, late in November—four months later—an election was ordered. The workers would have a chance to vote either for the RWDSU, or for a local of the Retail Clerks Int'l Assn., (which had intervened and demanded a place on the ballot), or for "no union." The date was set: Dec. 11.

### Election Stalled by "Charges"

Then on Dec. 9, just two days before the election, a bombshell went off. The NLRB notified the RWDSU that the election was indefinitely postponed. The reason: the RCIA local had filed unfair labor practices charges. Taft-Hartley provides that the mere filing of such charges automatically halts any election until the charges are heard and disposed of. It took until the following March for the NLRB to investigate and dismiss the trumped-up charges, which had served only the company's purposes in the first place.

But while this expected decision on the phony charges was being awaited, the company was not idle. It discharged two of the most active members of the union and took other steps to discourage union membership, such as cross-examining and spying on pro-union employees, laying off some out of seniority, transferring some to other stores, and so on. By the time the NLRB election was held on April 9, the company's tactics had so demoralized its employees that they voted against the union—although by the narrow margin of 81 to 76, with four more union votes challenged.

The union protested the election, and the regional director of the NLRB found merit in its objections. He therefore ordered a formal hearing on Nov. 18, 1958. But before the hearing could be held, the company discharged three more employees for no cause other than their membership in the union.

On Jan. 23, 1959, the regional counsel representing the NLRB's General Counsel reported his findings that the employees definitely had been fired for union activity. Still being awaited is the report of the trial examiner who conducted the Nov. 18 formal hearing. But meanwhile, the A & P company goes right on firing more union members—eight more, to be exact, for a total of 13.

This outline of the two-year history of A&P con-

nivance is by no means the end of the story. There are still many legal Taft-Hartley weapons left to the company, weapons to deny justice by delaying it.

Thus, when the trial examiner does finally issue the report which is now being awaited, the company still has the privilege of complying or not complying with his findings and recommendations. If A&P chooses not to comply, the report goes back to the NLRB in Washington. Added delay: at least six months.

The NLRB then issues an order. A&P will then have 60 days to comply or to refuse to comply. If the latter, it goes back to the NLRB for a decision on whether to take the order to the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for enforcement. Added delay: six months to a year.

Then the case must go on the Circuit Court docket. Added delay: one to one and a half years.

Even if the Circuit Court upholds the Board's order and the company still refuses to comply, as is its right under T-H, the NLRB must go back to the Court for a cease-and-desist order. Added delay: three to nine months.

Finally, after such an order is issued, the company can appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court. Added delay: up to several years.

### Many Changes Possible

Any step of the way, the entire union case may be thrown out on technical grounds. Of the court may modify the NLRB order. Or the whole case may be sent back for another formal NLRB hearing. It's no wonder that labor has termed Taft-Hartley "the full-employment act for lawyers."

The records of the NLRB prove that the time-consuming procedures provided under T-H always work against the union involved, never for it. In every case on record since T-H became law on Aug. 22, 1947, it has never taken less than four years from the date of an NLRB hearing to the issuance of a cease-and-desist order—and usually it has taken much longer. And this doesn't take into account the many substantial cases that had to be dropped because of the heavy legal expenses and long years needed to fight them through to a finish.

Despite all the odds, there are times when a situation cries out for a fight to the finish. That is the case in East Tennessee. The A&P workers themselves and the entire labor movement in the area are determined to keep up the fight until A&P halts its anti-union activities and recognizes the union of its employees' choice. The "Don't Buy" campaign, reported on Page 7, is a concrete expression of that determination. Union members are using their power as consumers to persuade A & P to deal fairly and decently with its employees.

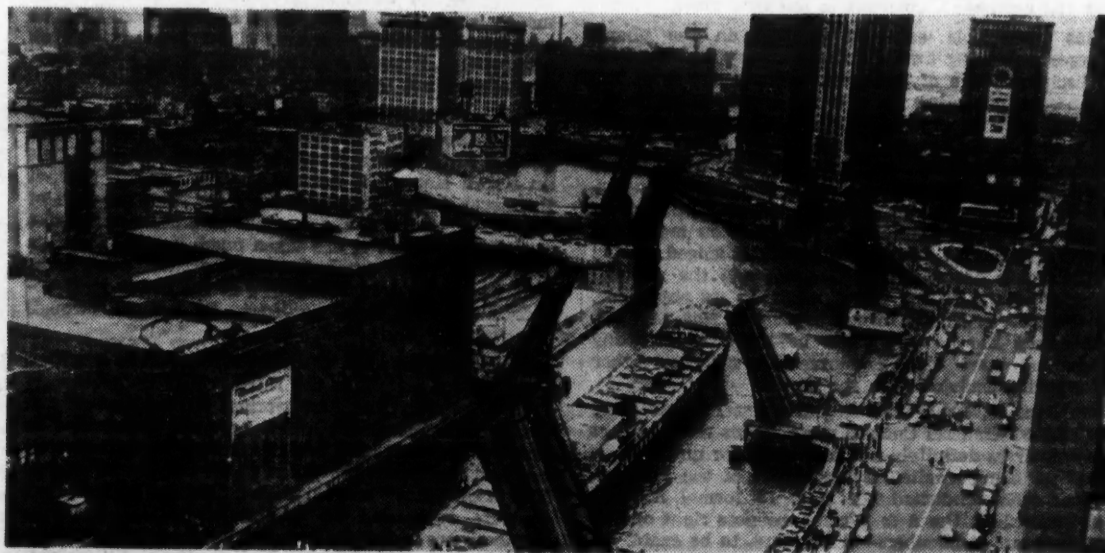


Blocked area at right indicates section of St. Lawrence River now navigable for ocean-going ships linking Great Lakes with the Seven Seas.

# ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY



Port terminal facilities at Duluth on Lake Superior are being created to meet increased traffic created by the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway.



The Chicago River in the midwest metropolis on Lake Michigan will become an Atlantic port with opening of the mighty new international waterway.

**T**HE St. Lawrence Seaway, the new mighty international waterway opening up the seas to inland cities in the U.S. and Canada, will be ready for business when the ice breaks up within a few weeks in the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River.

A pet project of Franklin D. Roosevelt that was started only after his death in 1945, the St. Lawrence Seaway is expected to bring great expansion of foreign trade. In effect, it will create a fourth U.S. seacoast as far inland as Duluth on Lake Superior, creating a bonanza for American grain, ore, automobile and coffee shippers. It will be even a greater spur to the Canadian economy.

The Seaway will also produce far-reaching shifts in traditional export and traffic patterns. Railroads, greatly concerned that the Seaway will cut into their business, last week moved to cut rates on grain transportation to meet the competition.

The immense advantages of shipping from Lake ports by direct water routes to European ports, made possible by the St. Lawrence Seaway, are best illustrated by the observation of a grain company official in Duluth: "We can now ship by water route to Antwerp and other European ports for less money than it costs to ship by rail to the East Coast." Similarly, the Seaway opens up new markets in the U.S. and Canada for foreign nations.

The Seaway will doubtless take away some business from current East and Gulf ports as well as from competing forms of transportation. For that reason, the Seaway, from its inception, was bitterly opposed by U.S. Atlantic ports and shipping interests, as well as by railroads and truckers.

Plans for nearly \$600 million worth of dock facilities will now go into action and a race to bring the first deep-sea U.S.-flag ship into the Lakes will be determined. Major U. S. shipping companies have been jockeying to decide which one will be the first to provide service into the Lakes.

How do labor organizations in the maritime field view the changes to be wrought by the great industrial waterway? Generally, they are hopeful that there will be a gain in shipping jobs when it goes into operation. Certainly, as they see it, the Lake ports—Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Duluth, Milwaukee, Toronto and others—will get a sharp economic shot in the arm.

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# ANTI-LABOR TERROR



Loggers and their wives maintain high spirits on Newfoundland picket lines, despite sub-zero weather.

By JACK WILLIAMS

## Newfoundland Tries Violence to Destroy Loggers' Union

GRAND FALLS, Newfoundland, Canada—This is written from a 6,000-person company town in the center of a rocky island that is Canada's 10th province. It is a paper-company town surrounded by logging country, where loggers are fighting to free themselves from semi-feudal conditions.

They are fighting a battle not only against a giant British-financed corporation, but against a government that has adopted fascist-like tactics in an attempt to outlaw the International Woodworkers of America and to pave the way for outlawing any other union that fails to gain the favor of one Joseph R. Smallwood, Premier of Newfoundland.

This is a battle that, in 1959, parallels in shocking detail the trade union struggles of 30 or 50 years ago on other parts of the continent.

Here, near this town loggers earn \$1.05 an hour; work a 60-hour week; sleep without sheets in double-decker bunks; eat a monotonous diet consisting largely of beans, beans and beans.

Even their \$1.05 an hour basic rate is not as good as it sounds because they only work in the wood six or eight months a year. And it becomes much less than that when you look at the prices that people of this Atlantic island pay for their food. Milk at 50 cents a quart; fresh meat at over \$1.00 a pound and up; vegetables at exorbitant prices because practically none are grown here.

There is one more background item that is needed. It was just 10 years ago that Newfoundland became part of Canada. Before that, Newfoundland was a British colony. The pulp and paper corporations have traded on that; they have done their best to maintain a colonial atmosphere.

Under these conditions, the IWA launched its organizing campaign in 1956 among loggers employed by the Anglo-Newfoundland Development Co., who are scattered over the rough, rocky logging country of the island—an area accessible largely only by company roads. The company was quick to serve notice that no IWA representative would be allowed to set foot on their land; that they would face trespassing charges if they did.

### Organizers Walk 150 Miles

But IWA representatives did set their feet on company property—many thousands of miles of it—because they walked, mile on mile. They walked through the bush from the highways. They were dropped on company property by planes that landed on lakes as much as 150 miles from a highway, and they walked out, signing members as they went.

By January, 1957, the IWA had 87 per cent signed and paid, and with that backing the union went before the Newfoundland Labour Relations Board. Finally a vote was held in early 1958 and 86.4 per cent of the loggers voted IWA, and the union was certified on May 1, 1958.

A convention was called some three weeks later and for the first time in the history of this original British colony the loggers were able to sit down and talk about what they would try to get from the company that employed them. They talked about the problems of the men who have to buy their own power saws at \$300 or

\$400, for the Anglo-Newfoundland Development Co. does not provide this kind of equipment. They talked about the problem of the men who use their own horses in the work of hauling out wood. They talked about beans and beans, and the novel idea that sometimes they should have bacon and eggs for breakfast.

Negotiations with the company started June 17, 1958. They dragged on to October, with company opposition to wage increases or reductions in hours stubbornly maintained. Finally the IWA applied to the government for the appointment of a conciliation board and the board was eventually appointed—one representative nominated by the company, one by the union, and an impartial chairman. The board conducted hearings and came up with a report that all three members signed, including the company nominee.

It proposed a wage increase of five cents an hour over a two-year contract and reduction of the 60-hour week to 54 hours, in the second year, without loss of pay. This would have established a base-rate of \$1.22. The board also made suggestions for some action on the union's other proposals, particularly camp conditions.

Meager as the recommendations were, the union accepted them. The company flatly rejected them. And on New Year's Eve the strike was on.

Picket lines were established along a 200-mile front. There is only one main highway, and almost all of it gravel; it winds its way through the province. For a time all was quiet, and then the company attempted to take into logging camps men they had picked up from fishing villages and wherever they could find them—to take the jobs of the loggers.

There were some incidents; not many, but occasions on which loggers went into the camps to get the scabs to leave. As a result, close to 200 charges were pressed against strikers.

By the end of the first week of March, some 67 strikers were in the penitentiary and their wives had taken their places on the picket line. Scores more—the exact number became confused, there were so many—were waiting trial and sentence; but the courts slowed down the proceedings because the jails were becoming jammed.

All this was the background when the government, in the person of Premier Smallwood, stepped in. In a radio and television broadcast on Feb. 12, speaking of the International Woodworkers of America, he said: "How dare these outsiders come into this decent, Christian province and by such desperate, such terrible methods, try to seize control of our province's main industry! How dare they come into this province amongst decent, God-fearing people and let loose their dirt and filth and poison. . . . Every decent Newfoundlander, should feel that he has been made dirty by the presence of this wicked and mischievous body of reckless and irresponsible wreckers."

Then the Premier gave his ultimatum: "There is not enough room in Newfoundland for the government and

the IWA at the same time. One or the other must go."

His vicious attack on the union certified by his own Labour Relations Board and legally on strike was, however, only part of this dramatic performance. The other part was his invitation to loggers to abandon the IWA and join a union which he was establishing. Within a week, he said, the men could be back to work in the woods and within two weeks an agreement would be signed with the company. But the loggers failed to respond.

Smallwood talked across the island again and again, denouncing the union to people whose only source of information is a battery radio that is turned on for a few minutes a day to save the batteries—people who seldom see a newspaper from one month's end to the other. The IWA was not silent; but it was placed in the position of denying rumors the First Minister of the province was personally promoting and circulating.

### Union-Busting Laws Passed

Nevertheless, Smallwood found himself in a desperate position. His efforts to promote a government-company union were slipping, and badly. So he went back to the legislative chambers in the capital, St. John's. There he launched a new attack, using all the privileges of his position as the leader of a party that holds 32 seats in the 36-member House of Assembly. He introduced a special piece of legislation to outlaw the IWA, to deprive it of the certification his own board had granted through a tortuous process. Not only did his own party back him on this and other anti-union legislation, but even the four-member Conservative Opposition stood up, one by one, and said, "Me too."

The line was drawn. A union now could be outlawed at the whim of the government. Every trade union organization in Newfoundland was in jeopardy; and particularly, international unions, which had already been referred to by the Premier as "these outsiders."

Since Smallwood's union-busting, the IWA strikers have reported brutal repression by the Newfoundland constabulary and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

One eyewitness reported that a column of 66 policemen, three abreast, "waded into a throng of striking loggers, clubbed two of them unconscious, flattened dozens more while wives and children screamed for them to stop."

Already the strike has resulted in the resignation of Commissioner L. H. Nicholson, head of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police who was angered because he was not permitted to send in more police. One policeman died of injuries he suffered when police sought to break up striking pickets protesting against the protection afforded strike-breakers.

Canada's Prime Minister John Diefenbaker has sharply rebuked Smallwood for his intervention in the violence-studded strike. Diefenbaker accused Smallwood of "greatly aggravating" the situation.

The Canadian labor movement too is responding to the challenge to its very existence that is represented by the Newfoundland loggers' strike.

RWDSU locals, like other unions in Canada, are being asked to contribute for the relief of strikers' families, Canadian Dir. George Barlow reported. "We'll do everything we can to halt this terror in Newfoundland and prevent its spread to other provinces," he said.

By **LEE METCALF**,  
U.S. Congressman, Montana

Of all the means of communication between the people and their elected representatives, mail is the most important. Every day of the year, I receive a bushel of mail. I scan it all—newspapers; magazines; house organs of dozens of business firms, professional and trade associations, veterans and labor organizations. I read and answer the 50 or so first-class letters I receive daily.

And I agree with a statement Senator Murray made last year when he emphasized the importance of communication to representative government:

If I do not know the needs, problems, and opinions of my constituents, I cannot speak for them; I cannot vote in their interests; I cannot protect them. In short, I no longer represent them.

I can assure you that some letters from constituents are as odd and amusing as these, which the Washington Post's Pulitzer prize-winning cartoonist, Herbert Block, invented for The Herblock Book:

*"Dear Congressman: What are you going to do about these moths around here, they're getting fierce."*

*"Am forwarding my six-year-old boy postpaid to see Our Nation's Capital. P.S.: He bites."*

*"Dear Sir: Fellow on the radio says to write your congressman so just thought I'd drop you a line. Yours truly."*

But for every letter in these categories, there are dozens that show the heartening realization that government is the business of the governed.

#### Suggestions Based On Experience

I have some suggestions for writing congressmen based not only on my own experience, but also on that of other congressmen.

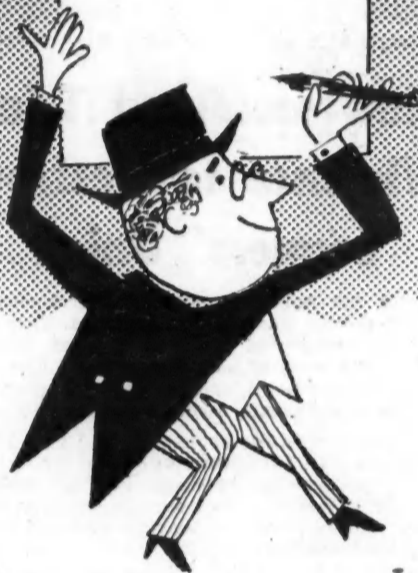
First of all, write your senator or representative just as you write anyone else. The influence your communication has depends upon the point you make and the clarity with which you make it. At times, the volume of mail on a given subject is important. But laws have been passed or killed on the basis of a single well-written letter.

Some points must be made over and over again. For example, each year, opponents of federal financial participation in education have to be answered when they trot out the tired old argument that federal participation means federal control.

In addition to letters, many constituents send in petitions. In general, a petition is not the best way to communicate with your congressman.

Too frequently, after I have sent a letter to each signer of a petition, I receive replies indicating that many either didn't know what the petition said or that they do not agree with the statement in the petition. Some say they signed the petition to get rid of the person circulating it, or they were in a group who signed and did

## A Congressman Tells: how to write your congressman



not wish to become conspicuous by refusing to do so.

Twenty years ago, when I was a member of Montana's legislative assembly, I was handed a petition. I was told that it had been signed by nearly all the teachers in my home county and represented their views on a particular piece of legislation. I checked that petition, which had almost 50 signatures on it. I found that only one signer was a registered voter.

That petition, then, represented the views of a single voter, who would have done better to have written me a letter. Of course, times have changed, and teachers, like others, are becoming more aware of their responsibilities to register, to vote,

#### WRITING TO CONGRESSMEN

Letters to senators should be addressed:

The Hon. John Doe  
Senate Office Building  
Washington 25, D.C.

Letters to representatives should be addressed:

The Hon. John Doe  
House Office Building  
Washington 25, D.C.

No further address is needed.

A correct salutation in writing to a senator or representative is:

Dear Senator or Dear Congressman, respectively, or Dear Mr. Doe for either.

and to present their point of view to their elected representatives.

Offhand, I can think of several ways in which you can kill your letter easily. One is to take the "Of course you don't know anything about this, but" approach. This is like going to see your doctor any saying: "Of course you don't know anything about medicine, but..."

Another way is the "It's too complicated for me to explain or for you to understand" reply to a congressman's request for more information. The reason for the request was that the congressman was interested by the initial letter and needed more information in order to take sensible action.

Nor will you help your cause if you brush aside all the major legislation pending at the time and blindly demand action yesterday on a comparatively minor bill.

#### Don't Make Phony Threats

Recently I received a letter from a man who said he would never vote for me again unless I voted his way on a certain bill. After checking my files, I wrote him that I had already lost his vote: he had made the same threat the year before, and I had voted contrary to his wish then.

A great deal of the mail that comes to Congressional offices is inspired by articles in trade or professional publications or by Washington representatives of various organizations. When the inspiration brings a flood of printed post cards or mimeographed petitions, the drive largely nullifies itself. When a letter writer merely copies the publication which inspired the letter, the communication is readily recognizable as part of the pressure campaign.

A letter looks more impressive if you refer to a bill by number, but it is well to remember that bills often are extensively revised in committee.

In addition to writing your congressman, you would do well to write also the chairman of the committee to which the bill was referred; these persons determine in large part whether there will be any action on a particular bill.

As important as the letter itself is your follow-up. If there was a record vote on the measure you wrote your congressman about, check his vote; then thank him. He appreciates knowing that you are pleased with his action.

Congressional files bulge with correspondence in which a constituent lets his congressman know how he feels about a particular piece of legislation; the congressman replies—and that's it.

One thoughtful, factual, well-reasoned letter carries more weight than 100 form letters or printed post cards. And there is a by-product of this do-it-yourself lobbying that makes it much more important in the long run than solving the immediate problem. That is the increased interest in and understanding of government that comes from getting in touch with your congressman and seeing things through his eyes.

U. S. Treasury Department—Internal Revenue Service  
**SALES OR EXCHANGES OF PROPERTIES**  
 Attach this schedule to your Income Tax Return, Form 1040, 1958, and ending

**SCHEDULE D (Form 1040)**

**U. S. INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX RETURN—1958**  
 (PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT)

1958, Ending (PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT)

At least But less

If total income on line 11, page 1, is

And the number of exemptions claimed on line 4, page 1, is

FORM 1040

U. S. Treasury Department—Internal Revenue Service

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1. Check blocks which apply.  
 Check for wife if she had no income or her income is included in this return.  
 2. List first names of your children who qualify as dependents; give address of each.  
 3.

(a) Regular \$600 exemption.  
 (b) Additional \$600 exemption if 65 or over at end of taxable year.  
 (c) Additional \$600 exemption if blind at end of taxable year.

If income was all from salaries and wages, use pages 1 and 2 only. See Page 3 of the instructions.

☐ Yourself ☐ Wife  
☐ Yourself ☐ Wife  
☐ Yourself ☐ Wife  
☐ Yourself ☐ Wife

Enter number of exemptions checked

Enter number of children

# TAX TIPS

## For Workers

By **SIDNEY MARGOLIS**  
 Consumer Expert for The Record

Despite widespread complaints that loopholes for big taxpayers deliberately permitted by Congress are destroying the principle of progressive taxation, Congress actually created even more loopholes in the tax legislation it passed in 1958.

For one thing, the new loopholes permit corporations even more latitude in deducting a loss in one year's operations from previous year's profits. This is in striking contrast to the tax treatment of wage-earners. If you suffer some unemployment one year and don't make your living expenses for the year, you can't get a rebate on previous taxes or future taxes as can a businessman.

Here are other new tax favors granted businessmen and stockholders: Wealthy taxpayers now have more opportunity to set up temporary "collapsible" corporations so they can pay the lower-rate capital-gains tax instead of the full personal-income tax rate. Congress also voted to allow corporations to retain a larger share of their income without penalty. It also increased depreciation rates on business equipment to permit accelerated tax deductions.

One of the most amazing new loopholes granted bankers and individual investors, is special tax concessions if they invest in companies that make loans to small businessmen. This is a new device supposed to make available capital for small businesses. But instead of making these loans directly as the Government used to do, Congress decided to lend the public's money to these new private investment companies. They in turn will do the lending—at a profit. If the private investors put up only \$150,000, the Government will put up \$300,000.

Besides making a profit by acting as middlemen for the public's money, these investment companies won't have to pay any tax at all on the dividends they earn, and get special tax rebates on any losses they incur.

### 'High-Bracket' Taxes Exaggerated

These and the many other loopholes already in existence have made a mockery of the theoretical high tax rates on big incomes, supposed to go up to 91 per cent. Sydney Prereau, director of the J. K. Lasser Tax Institute, reports that in 1955 there were 267 Americans with incomes over a million dollars for the year. They paid an average tax of about 53 per cent, not the 91 the public has been led to believe wealthy people pay.

People who work for wages are noticeably discriminated against in another way. They're the only ones who pay taxes ahead of time—out of pay. All others get at least three months' credit or can hold off a whole year by paying six per cent interest.

Another handicap on the small taxpayer is that one tax district may allow certain deductions because the Court of Appeals there so ruled. But a Circuit Court decision is binding only in that circuit, not in the other tax districts. A big taxpayer can try legal action to get a deduction on the basis of other rulings. The little fellow generally can't afford to.

Small taxpayers themselves sometimes pass up tax savings because they don't have access to expert tax counsel. A worker we know every year sends in the short form return, never bothering to itemize actual deductions to see if they tote up to more than ten per cent. One year a friend added up his heavy church contributions, mortgage interest, property tax, allowable medical bills, deductible job expenses, license fees, gas tax and other legal deductions. The total was \$860, not the \$480 allowed him by the standard deduction. He had paid \$76 more than necessary.

That punch-card Form 1040A is really a snare and a delusion for many taxpayers. It's easy to fill out, but if you use it, you can't claim all your deductions if these would total more than the blanket ten per cent allowed by the short form return. Nor can you claim the valuable sick-pay exclusion and the child-care deduction permitted working mothers and widowers, if you use Form 1040A.

In 1958 Congress made it official that up to \$100 a week of pay you

get when sick is tax free, whether paid by your employer's insurance plan or just your ordinary wages continued when you were ill. Sick pay for the first seven days of an illness is not excludable unless you suffered an injury or were hospitalized at least one day. You subtract legally-excludable sick pay from your taxable income on page 1 of Form 1040.

Also remember to have any of your children who worked part-time or during vacations file a tax return if their employers withheld taxes. They may be entitled to a refund. As long as the child is under 19 or is still a student and his parents provide more than half his total support including board and school expenses, they can claim him as a dependent and take a \$600 exemption for him. This is so even though he earns over \$600 for the year. He too can file a return claiming himself as a \$600 exemption. This is the one situation in which an individual can be claimed as a dependent on two different tax returns.

### Some Travel Expenses Deductible

A bone of contention between wage-earners and the Treasury Department has been the deductibility of expenses while working away from home. It's clear enough that workers who get temporary jobs away from home can deduct their first and last travel expenses, and all costs of board while away from home. But in 1958, the Supreme Court ruled that three construction workers who had been employed on a job away from home could not deduct their travel and board expenses because they quit the job while work was still available. Thus they could not prove the job was only temporary. This was legal hair splitting, but keep in mind that such jobs, to pass the rule, must be temporary in nature.

You can't deduct your everyday expenses for getting to work. But in these days when many people hold more than one job, you are permitted to deduct your transportation costs, including use of your own car, to get to a second job.

This year you may have more latitude in deducting for medical expenses. The tendency now is to permit deductions for special household equipment bought to relieve a specific illness at a doctor's advice such as an air conditioner bought for a heart patient or asthma sufferer or a special bed board or reclining chair bought for an ill person at a doctor's behest. The Internal Revenue Service now also permits medical deductions for special schooling of handicapped children.

Also keep in mind that vocational education costs now are deductible if you take such courses to keep up with developments on your present job, and not merely to win a promotion.

## No Tax Problems for Insurance Firms

WASHINGTON (FAI)—Congressional efforts to amend the tax laws for insurance companies have revealed staggering profits of up to 2800 percent for certain types of companies at a time when penny wage boosts for labor are being denounced as "inflationary."

The insurance companies that have been making the biggest killing are the kind that pay loans on automobiles or other installment-bought equipment if the buyer should die before the loan is paid off.

Here is a "profit" rundown just published after a survey by the Washington Daily News. This lists the 1957 profit and tax picture for three leading insurance companies of this type during 1957.

Patriot Life Insurance Company of New York: Net operating gain of \$13,900,000 for the year or 926 percent on paid-in capital of \$1,500,000. Under present tax laws it paid only \$52,000 Federal income taxes.

Alliance Life Insurance Company of South Bend, Indiana: Net operating gain was \$5,600,000 for a profit of 2800 percent on \$200,000 in paid-in capital. Federal income taxes paid were an estimated \$20,000.

General Fidelity Life Insurance Company of Richmond, Va.: Operating gain of \$2,200,000 for a 725 percent profit on paid-in capital of \$305,000. Federal income tax, \$3,100.

## POST HASTE

By JANE GOODSELL

Judging from our mail (both incoming and outgoing) since Christmas, the world is in terrible shape. People everywhere are working sweatshop hours, dashing at breakneck speed and heading lickety-split toward nervous breakdowns.

Just this morning I got a letter from a young cousin in California.

"Dear Jane," it began, "I'm terribly sorry I haven't written sooner to thank you for the darling bracelet, but school keeps me so frightfully busy. I spend practically every waking minute studying. I just haven't had an extra second since Christmas. The bracelet is darling, and I know I'll enjoy wearing it. Must dash now, and get back to my algebra. Love, Patty."



Except for the fact that I, too, have been writing thank-you notes lately, I'd be worried about Patty. The idea of a young girl slaving away her youth and beauty over dried-up textbooks! Why, the poor dear didn't even have time to write a two-minute letter!

But I have been writing thank-you notes lately, and I suspect that anyone reading them must be convinced that I, too, am living life at a killing pace.

"Have been so busy," I complain. "Just haven't had a minute to write." Or "Just snatching a second to thank you for the lovely lapel pin."

All my letters end on a note of frantic haste. "Must close now and dash to the PTA meeting." Or "All for now as I must get back to the ironing."

The average thank-you note devotes a minimum of space to the gift received. Since several weeks have probably elapsed since the gift was



opened, this is understandable. By that time one of the "perfectly lovely white gloves" has probably been left on the bus, and "the darling blouse" has started to unravel at the seams.

The remainder of the letter consists of excuses for not writing sooner. The later the letter, the more harrowing the excuses. By the middle of January a case of the sniffles is elevated to "a baffling virus infection which hung on and on, and left me so weak I could hardly lift a finger."

But if you have delayed writing until March, an even more pitiable plight is necessary. "I know you will forgive me for not writing sooner when you learn that I have been suffering, ever since Christmas, from a mysterious malady for which science has no cure. Now that I am able to write, I want you to know how much I appreciate..."

(This is the technical truth. Science has no cure for the sniffles.)

None of the letters I wrote or received since Christmas are prize samples of the gentle art of social correspondence. But almost any of them would do nicely as a desperate appeal for help from a welfare society.



—Drawings by Marjorie Glaubach

## clothes- HORSEING AROUND

By MAIA RODMAN

### SPRING THOUGHTS

In the spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love. But a woman is more apt to think darkly of having "absolutely nothing to wear." A look into the clothes closet seems to deny this, but a woman's logic is more powerful than facts.

To make room for that needed new wardrobe one should start by discarding any dress that has not been worn for a year or more. But even the most hopeless garment may have something worth salvaging... maybe a belt, buttons or collar. A few alterations here and there can convert a no-longer wearable dress into several pieces of accessories, a cummerbund, a scarf or a stole.

But nothing under the sun lifts a woman's spirits quite as much as a complete, new wardrobe. Here are some suggestions for a closetful of happiness. All of them were found in RWDSU-organized stores in New York, where you will be waited on by fellow union members. Similar values can be found in units of the same companies and other large stores in other cities.

### Spring-Summer Wardrobe for Under \$100

- COAT**—A water repellent Chesterfield classic in black and white checks, with a velvet collar and matching beret by Jolee. Junior Coats, 3rd floor, STERN'S ..... \$ 19.98
- COSTUME ENSEMBLE**—Dramatic, Paris-inspired look of the short-cropped jacket with billowing sleeves of organza, teamed with a sleeveless sheath to wear all summer, BONDS, ..... \$ 14.98
- COCKTAIL DRESS**—Chiffon that floats through spring and summer. Its only accent: a pair of flirty satin bows over the low cut, provocative back. By Barriet. SAKS-34th, Fifth Floor ..... \$ 10.98
- SUIT**—in Italian imported tweed. Fluttering tie-top, fully lined, short-fitted jacket, back kick-pleat skirt. Designed by Kentmore in black and white. MACY'S, 4th Floor, ..... \$ 11.99
- COTTON KNIT DRESS**—shape-retaining. The bateau-neck sheath comes in beige, peacock or black and is styled by Paintset. BLOOMINGDALE'S, Downstairs Store, ..... \$ 3.99
- SHIRTWAIST DRESS**—in easy to care cotton. This "Checkered Charmer" has unpressed pleats on skirt, simulated pearl buttons, comes in half sizes, and pink and blue. Perfect for the office. Style No. 895-60. GIMBELS, Basement, ..... \$ 3.99
- JACKET**—to go over any sheath, to make a shining entrance into summer or a pretty exit from winter. Choose from embroidered, lined cotton or the new hopsack, in prints or solids. Double or single breasted. GIMBELS, Main Floor or BLOOMINGDALE, Downstairs Floor, ..... \$ 5.98
- BLOUSE**—a large selection of blouses in all colors and sizes is available at MACY'S, Fifth Floor, ..... \$ 2.99
- SLACKS**—in cotton, in plaids, solids or prints. LERNER SHOPS ..... \$ 3.98
- SHIRT**—to go with those new slacks, man-tailored in pastel shades. LERNER SHOPS, ..... \$ 1.98
- SHORTS**—for warm weather lounging. LERNER SHOPS, ..... \$ 2.98
- BATHING SUIT**—in a wide variety of styles. S. KLEIN'S, ..... \$ 5.98
- HAT**—a flowered wig or an ever-chic sailor. MACY'S, 2nd Floor, ..... \$ 4.99
- SHOES**—styles nationally sold at \$10.95 to \$14.95 can be bought at a fraction. (In other cities, watch for closeout sales.) KLEIN'S, ..... \$ 4.99

GRAND TOTAL: \$ 99.78

### Something New in Zippers

This spring when you shop for clothing you'll notice more garments available with a new type of closure consisting of two velvety nylon tapes which interlock. This new closure is marketed under the name Velcro. You may have seen it demonstrated on television in men's and boy's sport jackets.

Velcro is an important development which is already being tried out on petticoats, pajamas, belts, dresses, jackets, handbags, and slip covers. It is also being tried on girdles, brassieres, trousers and even diapers. Its usefulness is that the two tapes cling together very strongly but are easy to open with a longwise pull. Thus, you even can change the trimming of a coat or dress by peeling off a collar, bow or other trim and pressing a new bow etc., into place.

Velcro interlocking tapes also will be available this spring by the yard, for home use.

In many cases Velcro tapes can replace zippers; they also can be used where zippers are too bulky or create other problems. Besides, the interlocking tapes promise to be more durable than many of the poorly-made zippers now in use. The Neighborhood Cleaners Association of New York made tests with Velcro tapes and found they retained their holding power even after as many as 50 dry-cleanings.

—Sidney Margolis

# lighter side of the record

## Mincing Words

"I've got a rather distasteful job," remarked a genealogist. "A woman employed me to look up her family tree and I've got to inform her that one of her relatives was electrocuted for murder."

"Don't worry about that," replied his friend. "Just write that the man occupied the chair of applied electricity at one of America's public institutions."

## Sure Fire

A quick-witted native of Ireland applied for a position as patrolman on the Dublin police force.

"Suppose, Pat," interrogated the man in charge, "suppose you saw a crowd congregated at a certain point on your beat, how would you disperse it quickly and with least trouble?"

"Bejabbers, O'd pass the hat!"

## Eligible

A small boy walked up to a movie box office during school hours and the cashier refused to sell him a ticket.

"Why aren't you in school?" she asked.

"It's O.K., lady," the little one replied, "I got the measles."

## Soul Mates

A robot from outer-space walked the streets of New York paying no attention to anything. Finally he wandered into a small cafe where there is a pinball machine that lights up. Addressing it, the stranger said admiringly, "Hey, babe, what's a classy dame like you doing in a place like this?"

## Evolution Accelerated Now

Scientists, years ago, predicted the eventual disappearance of the human race. And this was before the invention of the power mower.

## Runner Up

Guest at a wedding reception: "Are you the bridegroom?"

Young man: "No, ma'am, I was eliminated in the semi-finals."

## Modern Reasoning

Two men were driving along discussing the high rate of taxes and the waste of money by the government. At the height of their spirited discussion a school bus passed them.

"See! That's what I mean," exclaimed one. "When I was a boy, I walked 3 miles to school every morning and 3 miles home every evening 5 times a week. Now we spend \$9,000 for a bus to pick up kids so they don't have to walk and we spend \$500,000 for a gymnasium so they can get exercise."

## Ready in a Minute

Mrs. Smith to husband: "I'm going to run over next door for just a minute. Be sure to stir the soup every half hour."

## Daffynitions

A recent, and for our money, the best definition of a "beatnik": "A scrambled egghead."

A successful politician: one who can get in the public eye without irritating it.

## Proves It

A man owned a bird dog he claimed was the world's greatest. One day he was walking down the street with the dog when suddenly it froze in the traditional bird-in-the-grass pose as a man with a large shopping bag in his arms approached.

"Do you happen to have a game bird in your poke?" the dog owner asked.

"No," replied the erstwhile shopper, "but my name does happen to be Partridge."

## Little Moron Again

Have you heard about the Little Moron who peeled and threw several onions into the river? He wanted to see the River Kwai.

## Homo Sapiens

A tourist is a fellow who travels many hundreds of miles to get a snapshot of himself standing by his automobile.

## Not Interested

"How are you" is a greeting, not a question. Therefore don't tell me about your indigestion.

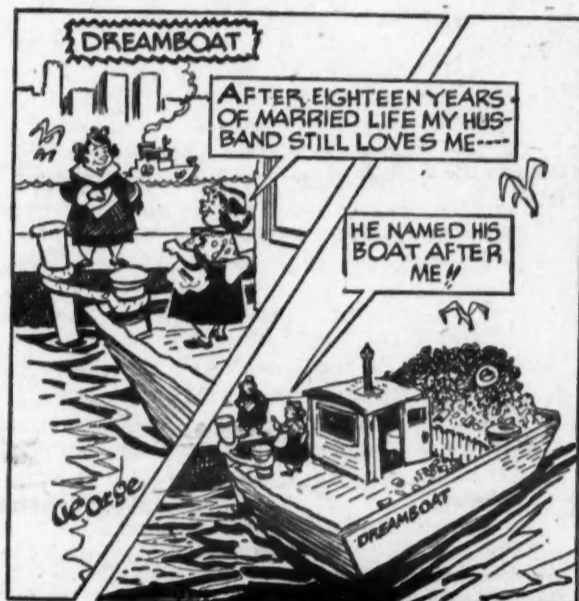
## Rendering Service

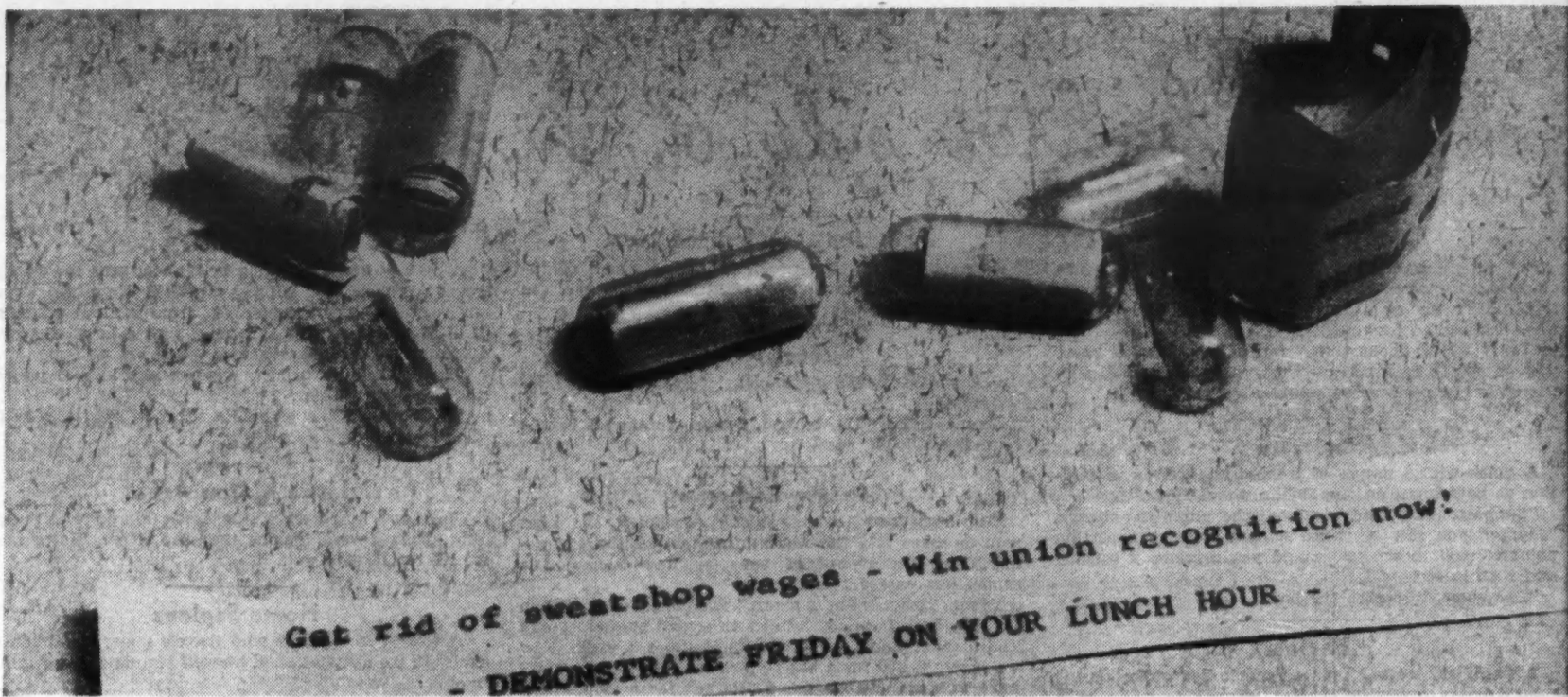
An expectant father received the following message in a telegram: "Your wife just gave birth to an eight-pound baby girl this morning. Both mother and child doing well."

Attached to the wire was a sticker reading, "When you want a boy, call Western Union."



**CURVES AHEAD:** No road signs are needed to draw attention to curvaceous Claire Kelly, snapped on the set during the filming of MGM's "Party Girl."





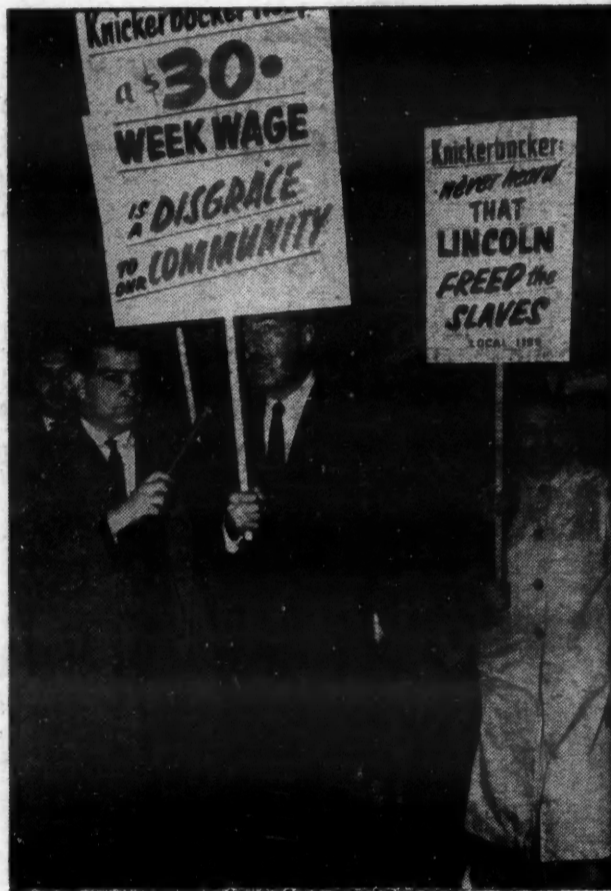
Unique method of reaching hospital workers with union message was used by Local 1199. Message was folded into tiny transparent capsules, passed by hand from worker to worker.

## N.Y. HOSPITAL STRIKES LOOM

NEW YORK CITY—Management refusal to meet with the union representing 8,500 workers in the voluntary hospitals of New York City—to correct wages as low as \$30 a week—brought the possibility of strikes in the hospitals in a matter of days or weeks. With the full backing of the International Union and the AFL-CIO, the RWDSU's Local 1199 proceeded with strike votes last week at five of the hospitals—Mount Sinai, Beth David, Jewish Hospital of Brooklyn, Bronx Hospital and Beth Israel—and at presstime reports of overwhelming votes favoring strike action were received. Other hospitals where the union represents the workers, and where strike votes will follow later, include Knickerbocker, Flower and Fifth Ave., and Beth El. A sign of the tremendous sweep of the organizing campaign of Local 1199 is the announcement by Pres. Leon Davis that the union has organized majorities at four more hospitals—Poly-clinic, Long Island Jewish, University and Lenox Hill.

"By refusing even to meet with the union," Davis declared, "these hospitals are removing any possibility of a reasonable and orderly solution to the pressing problems of their employees. These managements are seeking to perpetuate the shameful exploitation of thousands of workers earning as little as \$30 for a 44-hour, six-day week. Voluntary hospital workers refuse to tolerate these scandalous wage scales any longer. They resent the fact that they must seek relief assistance from the Welfare Dept. in order to feed and clothe their families."

Davis added that strikes were unnecessary in hospitals if the managements simply carried out their responsibility. "What is required," he said, "is that the union be accorded recognition when it represents a majority of the workers, and that agreements be negotiated in a reasonable, orderly fashion, as was the case at Montefiore and Maimonides hospitals."



U.S. Congressman Powell joined March 9 picketline demonstration at Knickerbocker Hospital in Harlem.



Huge turnout of Mount Sinai Hospital workers demonstrated in rain March 6, calling attention to \$32 a week wages paid by their hospital.